

Appointment of Acting Mayor

April 6, 2022

Issue Overview:

- The sections of the Charter that pertain to the appointment of Acting mayor are as follows:
 - Sec. 64. - Acting mayor
 - Sec. 64-1. - Temporary inability

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If the mayor be temporarily absent from the city, the mayor may designate the **director of public service**, the **director of public safety**, or the **president of city council as acting mayor**. During a period of temporary absence of the mayor the acting mayor so designated shall exercise such powers and duties of the office of mayor as the mayor shall delegate. Nothing herein shall prevent the president of city council from exercising the president's powers and duties as a member of council during the temporary absence or inability of the mayor

Problem Statement

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Currently, the charter only permits the mayor to appoint the director of public service, the director of public safety, or the president of city council as acting mayor. In doing so, the charter unnecessarily limits who the mayor may appoint as acting mayor, and creates a potential conflict in allowing the president of city council to be appointed acting mayor.

Considerations

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Should the charter be amended to:

- Allow the mayor to appoint others as acting mayor?
- Explicitly state who, beyond director of public service and director of public safety, may be appointed acting mayor?
- More broadly define those who may be appointed acting mayor, as ordained by Council?
- Eliminate the option to appoint the city council president as acting mayor, or otherwise limit the powers of the council president while serving as acting mayor?